

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Ten o'clock.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Is it the wish of the committee that I call it ten o'clock?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Resolutions adopted in committee of supply this day reported and concurred in.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. MacLean:** Mr. Speaker, for the convenience of hon. members can the government house leader put on the record what legislation or other business the government plans to place before the house for the rest of the week?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Tomorrow we will be dealing with the special order made by the house to discuss the question of the report from the external affairs and national defence committee on the matter of Nigeria. On Wednesday next we will be dealing with the estimates of the Minister of Public Works. On Thursday, as the house knows, we have the special order whereby the house will not sit but the standing committees of the house will sit to consider estimates; and on Friday, subject to further confirmation, it will be my proposal to call the estimates of the Department of Finance.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

**GRAIN—SASKATCHEWAN—REPORTED INADEQUATE DRYING FACILITIES**

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, on November 22 I drew the attention of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to a protest sent to the government by the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture with respect to the adequacy of grain drying facilities and programs. I also inquired if the Prime Minister would ask the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) to give further consideration to this serious problem in order to determine what measures should be taken to deal with it.

The subject of harvest and grain conditions in western Canada was raised on the second day of the session. We were assured at that time by the minister that action was being

[The Deputy Chairman.]

taken to make full use of drying facilities. Subsequently the situation deteriorated. On September 25 the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave) asked for a statement dealing with the tough and damp grain situation. In a statement made on September 27 the government assured the house that matters were under control.

On October 9 the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) asked about drying and storage facilities. He was told that inland terminals, lakehead terminals and the wheat board were acting on the problem. On October 10 the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin) asked about delivery quotas, and the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang) informed the house that the matter would be assessed after the unit quota had been filled.

• (10:00 p.m.)

On October 15 on the adjournment motion I discussed deteriorating conditions on the prairies. Several points were urged upon the government at that time. First of all, there should be special over-delivery quotas to enable tough and damp grain to move to terminals. Some action has been taken on this now. Second, there should be special action to clear space at elevator points now plugged with dry grain, which prevents facilities being used to move tough and damp grain. Third, there should be adequate co-ordination and control to ensure that drying facilities are used to the maximum, and to develop emergency facilities as needed. Fourth, there should be special depreciation allowances for storage and drying facilities.

On October 16, 17 and 21 there were more questions on the subject. On October 23 the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave) moved an adjournment motion for discussion of this matter. This was not granted at that time. Later, on several other occasions, several members on this side of the house attempted to obtain more information from the government with regard to the program the government planned to initiate. On October 24 the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin) asked about the possibility of extending accelerated depreciation allowances in respect of grain drying equipment. He asked the question again on October 25. On November 6 I asked the same question and was told that the matter was being studied. As yet we have not had any announcement or decision from the government. On November 6 the Minister of Agriculture (Mr.